

Computer & Applications

Computer Hardware

We are now learning about computer hardware and how it changes over time. To explore these changes you will look through the old computer magazines and newspapers.

Read the ads for similar computers from the mid 90's to today. Make sure you get information on 3 different model years, at least 24 months apart each and the current data. Use this information for part 1.

Make sure to focus on entry level desktop computers. Make sure you include the price of a monitor if that is extra. You will need to share the magazines. (pages w/ good info are flagged)

Choose one type of technology to compare. Suggestion include: iMac computer, laptop computer, iPod price, iPod capacity, Printers, RAM Memory, or Hard Drives. Write down the different prices for these over the years. Try to make sure you're comparing similar things (inkjet printer, entry level computer, 512MB RAM...)

- 10 pts** 1. Create a spreadsheet that compares *system price*, OR *processor speed*, OR *HD capacity*, OR *peripheral (printer, iPod) price*. We will compare info together. Create a graph that demonstrates what you're saying in your paragraph. Don't know how to do this. Let me know!
- 20 pts** 2. Using the data from #1, write a *paragraph* (60+ words) that compares changes in computer technology and cost. Include some comments about computer design.
- 15 pts** 3. Read one article in newspaper at least 5 years old (older will be easier). What information is completely irrelevant now? What still applies, at least somewhat? Write a paragraph (40+ words) about this.
- 5 pts** 4. How would you define Computer "Hardware"? Make sure to use your own words. Extra Credit for using an analogy (a comparison between two things, ... for the purpose of explanation or clarification) *No Credit for describing memory like storing things in the basement of the house.*

- Don't worry about "correct answers". I want to see what you decide, based on the information.
- Go ahead and ask for help! ☺
- Please don't read letters to the magazine. Some people don't show much personal constraint. ☹
- Work independently on the writing. If your work looks like a neighbors, you won't receive credit.
- You have at least two days to work on this, more if needed.